

The Downs Benefice

We aspire to be a vibrant Christian Community with Jesus at the heart of our ministry - making a difference.

We aim to do this by being a relevant, welcoming, inclusive worshipping community, embracing all people, serving others and sharing the message of Jesus.

And we want to do this with humility, grace, love and **prayer**.

PRAYER LIST

April/May 2026



*Prayer is like opening a door and slipping into
the presence of God.*

There in the stillness to listen to His voice

Perhaps to petition – or only to listen

It matters not;

Just to be there, in His presence, is prayer.

This leaflet is used for prayers in the church room at Littleton on Thursdays at **4.15 pm** each week, to which all are welcome, and can be used for your private prayers.

We hold before God all those for whom prayer has been requested.

To comply with the General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR), individual names are not printed, but we believe that God knows who these dear people are, and His Holy Spirit will intercede on our behalf.

We also pray for anyone else on our hearts at this time and all those with temporary or long-term health problems and for the families and carers who support them.



We remember with compassion friends and relatives of the recently departed:

Dorothy Lock

Mary Hook

Ted Cole

Leslie Barron

Shirley Lupton

Dawn Rickatson

Nigel Goodeve-Docker

Majorine Nakibuule (Karis Kids family)

Viscount Robin Bridgeman

We pray for our Ministry Team and administrator, Caroline:

For our Incumbent Kevin Rogers and Lorna and the ministry team including Kate Fletcher our Anna Chaplain, Peter Lippiett, Alan Disher, Charlotte Nash, Andrew Kent, Sally Wesley, Alastair Barron and Carol Coleman.

We pray for the young in our area.



We pray for all teachers and carers and all who have responsibility for education inside and outside our churches. We especially uphold our Toddler Group in Littleton and Primary schools in Sparsholt and Wherwell, giving thanks for their Christian witness.

We pray for our benefice and the ministry of the five parishes, praying for:

Chilbolton

- An open attitude to change, recognising that our focus is on God not tradition
- Bubble church - that more families will come and hear and respond to the good news

Crawley

- Growing ministry to children, families and young people; building on the success of recent special/Festival Services.
- To increase the number of volunteers supporting St Mary's as we strive to "grow the Church" in Crawley.

Littleton

- Growth, especially bringing in new families to enliven our worship.
- Giving thanks for all those who volunteer in any way, to ensure the smooth running of services and our wider ministry.

Sparsholt

- A thriving church, alive with prayer, active in outreach, rich in discipleship, and filled with the power of the Holy Spirit.
- The gift of generosity of those around us to support our Church; generosity in time, effort and financial resources.

Wherwell

- Give thanks for new members of the congregation at recent services and pray they may become part of the church family.
- Pray for more people to step up to take on roles within the church.

We pray for our missionary contacts: Ben and Esther Brown (with Barny, Reuben and Jesse), serving with MAF in Arnhem Land; Chris and Kesia Pain in Japan with OMF; for Bishop Crisanto in Northern Argentina supported by CMS; and The Brickworks supporting projects in South Sudan; for others known to, and supported by, individuals in our parishes. We pray for the ongoing work of Karis Kids in Kampala, praying for our link church, St Pauls in Okuvu, and the eight families supported by the Downs Benefice.

We uphold Christians who are persecuted for their faith, and pray for those supporting them through Open Doors and similar organisations.

Pray for our wider world



Pray for physical health - People living in extreme poverty often face many challenges to their physical health. They may not have access to health facilities and medications, or may have to travel a long way to reach them. Let us pray for additional resources to allow increased access to healthcare.

Pray for emotional and relational health - Living through poverty, conflict or disaster – and being forced to flee – takes a heavy emotional toll. It puts families and communities under immense strain. Let us ask God to bring deep healing, comfort and restoration to people affected by trauma and pray for God's healing.

Pray for spiritual health - Pray that God would bless and protect his global church, and that many people will hear his good news and experience transformation in every area of their lives.

Requests for Prayers may be made through the Benefice Office or direct to Revd Kevin Rogers. (office@downsbenefice.org.uk; 01962 880845)